

## **Plymouth CTC Secretary's Report 2012**

2011/12 has been quite a busy year for me, as not only did I take on the role as Secretary for Plymouth, I then very quickly also took on the duties as Devon Treasurer. Some say stupidly! I have attended all the Devon Committee meetings during the year apart from the summer one when Roy tried to get all the secretaries to attend but unfortunately the date clashed with my works away-day event. I would have liked to have met more of you, as I feel Plymouth doesn't have much interaction with the rest of the region.

I suppose you could say we are one of the smaller divisions within Devon (15/16 regular riders in number with a very even split between the sexes) – not sure how those statistics compare within the region. Over the year I have tried really hard to generate enthusiasm within the group membership, most of whom have been in it many more years than my four, the majority are retired from employment and therefore have more free time than I. I have not found it an easy task. I have come to learn the true meaning of these key words: apathy, commitment, effort and imagination.

In the Spring I placed an on-going free advert in one of the monthly local free community papers and it has sent us several guest riders over the course of the year. Meeting new cyclists is always interesting and entertaining. One of those guest riders of late has proved to be very keen on joining us. I am optimistic our numbers will increase gradually.

Apart from our Sunday gatherings, the only other group activity was a holiday in late September to the Munsterland, Germany, organised by Graham John. He took two others from the group and another from a rival Plymouth club! Several have been on their own cycling holidays during the year to some interesting places, the most travelled this year has to be Jean who has been with us for about a year or perhaps a little longer. Jean has cycled through several Eastern European countries in the summer, and has just returned from Sicily, too. I have recently recruited her as a leader and hope her enthusiasm will help bring some new vigour to the group.

Our Christmas lunch is being organised for 16 December. We are going to the Leaping Salmon in Horrbridge.